



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were higher in the East, mostly unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment was mostly steady to at times fully steady in the East. Retail demand was slow to moderate with few features. Food service covered the full range, best into fast food channels. Supplies of smaller sizes were adequate to close, heavier weights were at least sufficient. In the parts structure, trading was light and selective to moderate. Wings were readily available, breast items sufficient, and dark meat was balanced to at times close. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights mixed, but mostly desirable.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 02/24/03-02/29/03 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Includes branded product)		COMPOSITE	
	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS	WTD AVG
CORRECTION FOR WEEK OF 02/17/03-02/22/03				
Delivered to First Receivers				
Bos/New Eng	56.00-58.00	58.00	20	59.39
Chicago	53.00-56.00	55.32	40	57.27
Ohio Cities	TFEWR	—	—	58.39
Denver	67.50	67.47	17	61.90
Denver	67.50	**67.46**	17	66.69
Detroit	55.00-56.00	56.60	10	58.90
Los Angeles	68.00	66.50	64	65.30
New York	54.00-57.00	56.57	21	57.67
Philadelphia	55.50-57.00	56.36	11	56.72
Pittsburgh	55.00-58.00	56.50	10	60.45
St. Louis	54.50-55.00	54.65	20	55.87
San Francisco	68.50	67.50	31	67.72

Composite Weighted Average

Loads	02/24/03	Change/Last Wk	02/17/03	02/25/02
605	60.38	0.12	60.26	56.06

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delvd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS
East	59.50-60.50	60.16	31
Central	56.00-62.00	59.52	65
West	59.00-66.00	63.21	49
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent			
Mississippi	60.00-63.00	62.80	83

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 63.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
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1,132 53.00-66.00 62.05

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	167.50	1,418
BREASTS - B/S	149.00	5,182
BREASTS - WHOLE	84.00	1,160
THIGH MEAT - B/S	56.50	906
LEG QUARTERS	20.50	9,450
WINGS	71.50	3,403

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying activity was fair to moderate entering the week. Offerings were generally sufficient for current trade needs with lighter sizes in the better balance. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breast and wings were available. Boneless skinless breasts were well cleared. Leg items were generally adequate.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail and food service demand was mixed, mostly moderate at best, strongest for ads and fast food promotions. Supplies of all sizes were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was fair. Wings were at least adequate, breast items were readily available, and dark meat was in good balance to close. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was generally steady. Offerings were overall adequate with heavy weight product in the longest position. Retailer demand was moderate to good, best where features in progress and planned to cover first-of-the-month needs. Dealers reported fairly good weekend clearances. Trading reported on parts for delivery this week: drumstick 59-63, leg quarters 4/10s 24-25.5 and bulk 22-23, boneless leg meat 59-63, bone-in breast 92-101 and boneless 130-138. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG weighted average was 61.11 up .02 from last week with the volume reported up 14 percent to 32 loads.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER Majority prices generally unchanged from last Monday's finals. Whole fryer market tone was steady. Offers were light for the like trade interest. Retail movement was light to moderate. Food service was slow to fairly good, mostly moderate and best into fast food. Floor stocks were in a full range. Limited disruptions of deliveries were noted due to winter snowstorm. Weights were mixed. Trading on parts was moderate. Offerings of leg quarters were balanced, thighs increasing with breast items sufficient. The market tone was steady to weak on wings, and steady to fully steady on all other items.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fair to moderate. Offerings were adequate and clearing satisfactorily on most sizes. Four pound weights were noted as available and slow to clear at some but not all plants. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights were mostly desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 57 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, boneless skinless breasts continued to clear well. Bone-in breasts and wings were readily available. Leg quarters were fully adequate and clearing satisfactorily.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	54-72
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	59.89
NO. OF BOXES	9,128

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was light to mostly fair entering the week, as dealers remained cautious and selective. Offerings of bone-in breasts were at least adequate to available. Boneless skinless breasts were generally sufficient. Dark meat items were adequate. Wings remained available. Retail and distributive movement ranged light to moderate. The market tone was about steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	NEGOTIATED	CURRENT	WTD AVG	VOLUME /LBS
BREAST - B/S	140-145		137.36	571,720
TENDERLOINS	110-115		117.72	112,760
BREAST - WITH RIBS	83-84		91.17	160,120
BREAST - LINE RUN	83		86.24	135,120
LEGS	31-32		30.25	455,200
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21		20.75	490,668
DRUMSTICKS	23-24		29.80	103,200
THIGHS	21-22		32.84	55,000
B/S THIGHS	62-63		65.13	98,120
WINGS (WHOLE)	68-69		75.29	201,800
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		12.14	45,720
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35		28.25	11,400
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	45-50		49.14	23,360

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WT. AVG
BREAST - B/S	981	122.00-151.00	130-139	133.38
TENDERLOINS	1,504	126.00-173.00	126-128	129.31
BREAST - WITH RIBS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
FRONT HALVES	337	67.00-79.00	69-78	72.68
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	1,043	17.00-18.00	17	17.31
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	2,905	18.00-21.00	19-21	19.93
WINGS (WHOLE)	328	47.00-78.00	65-70	63.10
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	1,480	14.00-19.50	17	17.19

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	02/24	02/20	02/20	02/17	02/13
ALA	3,838	3,920	5.15	3,476	5.12
ARK	4,893	5,016	4.88	4,864	4.87
DELMARVA	2,336	2,394	5.18	0	5.08
KY-LA-TN	1,891	1,880	4.98	1,714	4.98
MISS	2,933	2,914	5.31	2,793	5.36
NC	2,523	2,634	5.88	1,511	5.79
TEXAS	2,432	2,371	5.00	2,365	4.95
TOTAL	20,846	21,129	5.17	16,723	5.14
MON	20,846(A)			16,723(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 24-Feb 2003 is estimated to be 31,188,000 up 24.28 percent from a week ago and down 0.32 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 25,095,000 last year 31,287,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND. **POUNDS**

ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	597	123.00-234.00	125-132	133.68
TENDERLOINS	149	118.00-172.00	118-120	130.90
BREAST - LINE RUN	118	85.00-88.00	85-87	86.79
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	88	27.00-35.00	27-28	27.73
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	632	17.00-20.00	18-19	18.42
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	939	19.00-26.00	21-22	21.70
WINGS (WHOLE)	275	60.00-73.00	-	71.20
WINGS (CUT)	475	78.00-87.00	82-85	83.56
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR FEB 24, 2003 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S RANGE	5-DAY AVERAGE	AVERAGE
43.00 - 49.00	47.80	46.59

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF FEB-24-03 - FEB-28-03

CENTS PER POUND	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	124.00 - 145.00	138.00 - 141.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	84.00 - 101.00	85.00 - 90.00
LEGS	27.00 - 37.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16.00 - 31.00	19.00 - 22.00
DRUMSTICKS	20.00 - 35.00	-
THIGHS	20.00 - 30.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	62.00 - 81.00	71.00 - 73.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS	25.00 - 45.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	39.00 - 49.00	-

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	80
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	83-87
FROZEN HENS 5# & UP	
FROZEN DUCKS	
FROZEN SQUABS	589

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

FRESH FRYERS	90-92
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	65-66
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK 102-103
	ICE PACK 95-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104-105
	DRY PACK 113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK 91-98
	DRY PACK
DUCKS	152-166

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

21-FEB-2003

CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	15.00-17.00	14.50-15.00	961,400	742,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.47	14.81		
15-20%				
RANGE	13.00-13.50	10.00-14.50	1,310,000	104,000
WTD AVERAGE	13.35	12.43		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	12.00	120,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		12.00		

* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

21-FEB-2003

CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	13.00-15.00	163,200	-
WTD AVERAGE		14.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	11.00-14.00	11.00-14.00	2,244,000	979,200
WTD AVERAGE	12.33	11.98		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	11.00	20,400	-
WTD AVERAGE		11.00		

* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for the generally sufficient offerings. Processing schedules were reported as normal. The undertone was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER

THE WEEK OF 24-FEB-03.	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.5-9.5	7-8.5	8.04
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Values were generally unchanged compared to the past week. Demand for heavy hens was moderate. Offerings were at least adequate. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 24-FEB-03

	RANGE CENTS/LB.	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	5.75-10	7.5-8.5	8.09

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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